

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

Version # _____

APP # 700258

A. Statement of Planning Objectives

Conduct and document appropriate level of specialist inventory and analysis in support of determining rehabilitation, restoration, or reroute needs of OHV route 114 (West Tecuya) located along Tecuya Ridge on the Mount Pinos Ranger District of the Los Padres National Forest.

This route has been closed since December 2007 due to excessive rutting and soil loss causing a safety hazard intermittently along it's 2.5 mile reach from Scott Russell Road on the east to Cherry Creek Road on the west. It is currently a single track, moderately difficult route recommended for intermediate and advance riders and is a popular connector to the matrix of routes along Tecuya Ridge.

An updated trail survey conducted 9/3/08 indicates a need to analyze reroute alternatives with the support of appropriate specialists such as soil specialist, trail specialist, hydrologist, archaeologist, bio/bot specialists, and tribal consultation. The project would result in the appropriate level of NEPA/CEQA documentation necessary to reopen the route for public use.

B. Relation of Proposed Project to OHV Recreation

The project will result in the reopening of a popular designated OHV route by repairing ruts and/or possibly creating a reroute so the system will continue to have continuity from one end of the ridge to the other end of Tecuya Ridge. Access is now truncated at street legal highways.

C. Statement of Activities

Conduct and document appropriate level of specialist inventory and analysis in support of determining rehabilitation, restoration, or reroute needs of OHV route 114 (West Tecuya) located along Tecuya Ridge on the Mount Pinos Ranger District of the Los Padres National Forest.

Identification of an interdisciplinary team consisting of a team leader, recreation specialist, archeologist, botanist, biologist, hydrologist, and soils scientist; internal scoping would occur to include team meetings to outline project plan and timeline; office review for all specialists to determine environmental focus/need relative to the specific location of the trail; field visits to the site to collect appropriate specialist data; report writing, approval, and submittal to team leader; external scoping as appropriate; development of alternatives relative to appropriate NEPA analysis level; and execution of an appropriate decision document to proceed based on specialist analysis.

D. List of Reports

Specialist reports/memos regarding concerns in the project area relative to botany, wildlife biology, cultural resources, tribal consultation, recreation/trails, soils, and hydrology.

Appropriate level NEPA document with CEQA compliance addressed.

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1. Timeline for Completion

Attachments:

[Tecuya Ridge NEPA Timeline](#)

2. Optional Project-Specific Application Documents

Attachments:

[114 West Tecuya Photos pg 1](#)

[114 West Tecuya Photos pg 2](#)

3. Optional Project-specific Maps

Attachments:

[West Tecuya Trail Location Map](#)

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009
Agency: USFS - Los Padres National Forest
Application: Planning - Mt Pinos Tecuya Ridge Route NEPA

6/2/2009

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:		Version # _____	APP # _____
APPLICANT NAME :	USFS - Los Padres National Forest		
PROJECT TITLE :	Planning - Mt Pinos Tecuya Ridge Route NEPA	PROJECT NUMBER (Division use only) :	
PROJECT TYPE :	<div style="display: flex; flex-wrap: wrap;"> <div style="width: 50%;"><input type="checkbox"/> Acquisition</div> <div style="width: 50%;"><input type="checkbox"/> Development</div> <div style="width: 50%;"><input type="checkbox"/> Education & Safety</div> <div style="width: 50%;"><input type="checkbox"/> Ground Operations</div> <div style="width: 50%;"><input type="checkbox"/> Law Enforcement</div> <div style="width: 50%;"><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Planning</div> <div style="width: 50%;"><input type="checkbox"/> Restoration</div> </div>		
PROJECT DESCRIPTION :	<p>Conduct and document appropriate level of specialist inventory and analysis in support of determining rehabilitation, restoration, or reroute needs of OHV route 114 (West Tecuya) located along Tecuya Ridge on the Mount Pinos Ranger District of the Los Padres National Forest.</p> <p>This route has been closed since December 2007 due to excessive rutting and soil loss causing a safety hazard intermittently along it's 2.5 mile reach from Scott Russell Road on the east to Cherry Creek Road on the west. It is currently a single track, moderately difficult route recommended for intermediate and advance riders and is a popular connector to the matrix of routes along Tecuya Ridge.</p> <p>An updated trail survey conducted 9/3/08 indicates a need to analyze reroute alternatives with the support of appropriate specialists such as soil specialist, trail specialist, hydrologist, archaeologist, bio/bot specialists, and tribal consultation. The project would result in the appropriate level of NEPA/CEQA documentation necessary to reopen the route for public use.</p>		

	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
DIRECT EXPENSES							
Program Expenses							
1	Staff						
	Management Staff	5.000	500.000	DAY	0.00	2,500.00	2,500.00
	Other-IDT Team Leader Notes : Is also rec/trails specialist	30.000	350.000	DAY	0.00	10,500.00	10,500.00
	Other-Specialists Notes : Archeologist, Botanist, Biologist, Tribal Consultant, Hydrologist, Soil Scientist - staff work, field work, reports	1.000	13000.000	MISC	13,000.00	0.00	13,000.00
	Total for Staff				13,000.00	13,000.00	26,000.00
2	Contracts						
3	Materials / Supplies						

Project Cost Estimate for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009
 Agency: USFS - Los Padres National Forest
 Application: Planning - Mt Pinos Tecuya Ridge Route NEPA

6/2/2009

	Line Item	Qty	Rate	UOM	Grant Request	Match	Total
	Misc Supplies to support Program Notes : office supplies	1.000	250.000	YR	0.00	250.00	250.00
4	Equipment Use Expenses						
	Other-Vehicle Mileage	1.000	1000.000	EA	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
5	Equipment Purchases						
6	Others						
	Travel	1.000	2000.000	YR	0.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
7	Administrative Costs						
	Administrative Costs-Administrative Cost	1.000	1040.000	EA	0.00	1,040.00	1,040.00
Total Program Expenses					13,000.00	17,290.00	30,290.00
TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES					13,000.00	17,290.00	30,290.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURES					13,000.00	17,290.00	30,290.00

Project Cost Summary for Grants and Cooperative Agreements Program - 2008/2009
 Agency: USFS - Los Padres National Forest
 Application: Planning - Mt Pinos Tecuya Ridge Route NEPA

6/2/2009

	Line Item	Grant Request	Match	Total	Narrative
DIRECT EXPENSES					
Program Expenses					
1	Staff	13,000.00	13,000.00	26,000.00	
2	Contracts	0.00	0.00	0.00	
3	Materials / Supplies	0.00	250.00	250.00	
4	Equipment Use Expenses	0.00	1,000.00	1,000.00	
5	Equipment Purchases	0.00	0.00	0.00	
6	Others	0.00	2,000.00	2,000.00	
7	Administrative Costs	0.00	1,040.00	1,040.00	
Total Program Expenses		13,000.00	17,290.00	30,290.00	
TOTAL DIRECT EXPENSES		13,000.00	17,290.00	30,290.00	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES		13,000.00	17,290.00	30,290.00	

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ITEM 1 and ITEM 2

ITEM 1

- a. ITEM 1 - Has a CEQA Notice of Determination (NOD) been filed for the Project? ☐ Yes ☒ No
(Please select Yes or No)

ITEM 2

- b. ITEM 2 - Are the proposed activities a "Project" under CEQA Guidelines Section 15378? ☐ Yes ☒ No
(Please select Yes or No)
- c. The Application is requesting funds solely for personnel and support to enforce OHV laws and ensure public safety. These activities would not cause any physical impacts on the environment and are thus not a "Project" under CEQA. (Please select Yes or No) ☐ Yes ☒ No
- d. Other. Explain why proposed activities would not cause any physical impacts on the environment and are thus not a "Project" under CEQA. DO NOT complete ITEMS 3 – 9

The activities to be accomplished under this proposal will not cause any physical impacts on the environment and is not a 'project' under CEQA because the project only requests funding to conduct the necessary resource inventories, assessments, and analyses to prepare the required biological evaluations, cultural resources reports, tribal consultation, environmental analyses (including water quality and soils), and documentation of findings in order to repair, restore, or reroute approximately 500 feet of trail. The analysis will include the entire length of the trail (approximately 2.5 miles) to identify and include any new concerns such as off route impacts. Additionally, in accordance with Forest Service NEPA Handbook 1909.15, Chapter 30, Section 31.11.3, the activities proposed on this project are categorically excluded from documentation.

ITEM 3 - Impact of this Project on Wetlands

ITEM 4 - Cumulative Impacts of this Project

ITEM 5 - Soil Impacts

ITEM 6 - Damage to Scenic Resources

ITEM 7 - Hazardous Materials

Is the proposed Project Area located on a site included on any list compiled pursuant to Section 65962.5 of the California Government Code (hazardous materials)? (Please select Yes or No) ☐ Yes ☒ No

If YES, describe the location of the hazard relative to the Project site, the level of hazard and the measures to be taken to minimize or avoid the hazards.

ITEM 8 - Potential for Adverse Impacts to Historical or Cultural Resources

Would the proposed Project have potential for any substantial adverse impacts to historical or cultural resources? (Please select Yes or No) ☐ Yes ☒ No

If YES, describe the potential impacts and for any substantially adverse changes in the significance of historical or cultural resources and measures to be taken to minimize or avoid the impacts.

ITEM 9 - Indirect Significant Impacts

CEQA/NEPA Attachment

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1. Project Cost Estimate - Q 1. (Auto populates from Cost Estimate)

1. As calculated on the Project Cost Estimate, the percentage of the Project costs covered by the Applicant is 5

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- ☐ 76% or more (10 points) ☒ 51% - 75% (5 points)
☐ 26% - 50% (3 points) ☐ 25% (Match minimum) (No points)

2. Planning Project - Q 2.

A Planning Project - Page 1

2. The Planning Project would address the following 4

(Check all that apply) (Please select applicable values)

- ☒ Potential effects of OHV Recreation on special-status species habitats
☒ Potential effects of OHV Recreation on cultural resources
☒ Potential effects of OHV Recreation on soil conditions
☒ Potential effects of OHV Recreation on water quality
☒ Potential effects of OHV Recreation on other recreation uses
☐ Potential effects of OHV Recreation on adjacent lands.
☐ Potential impact to relationships between OHV Recreation and local residents
☐ Toxic or hazardous materials within a Project Area or adjacent property that may impact OHV Recreation
☒ Trail issues such as traffic patterns, trails closures, appropriate uses, etc.

B. Planning Project - Page 2

Explain each statement that was checked

The project has been designed to conduct the necessary resource inventories, assessments, and analyses to prepare the required biological evaluations, cultural resources reports, tribal consultation, environmental analyses (including water quality and soils), and documentation of findings in order to repair, restore, or reroute West Tecuya Trail. By necessity, this process will include analysis of the effects of single track OHV use within the project area relative to water quality, off site soil movement, sustainability of soils relative to side slope trail construction and grade selection, and if there are any impacts to special status species habitats such as the California condor. Additionally, the trail has been closed for over a year effectively truncating the connectivity of the Tecuya Ridge route system for motorcycles. The analysis will address other recreation uses in the project to include the effects of the closure and restoration on uses such as camping, hiking, hunting, and bird watching.

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- ☒ 6 or more items checked (4 points) ☐ 4 to 5 items checked (3 points)
☐ 2 to 3 items checked (2 points) ☐ 1 or no items checked (No points)

3. Motorized Access - Q 3.

3. The Project would lead to improved facilities that provide motorized access to the following nonmotorized recreation opportunities 6

(Check all that apply) Scoring: 2 points each, up to a maximum of 6 points (Please select applicable values)

- ☒ Camping ☒ Birding
☒ Hiking ☐ Equestrian trails
☐ Fishing ☐ Rock Climbing
☒ Other (Specify) [Hunting]

4. Public Input - Q 4.

4. The Project proposal was developed with public input employing the following 2

(Check all that apply) Scoring: Maximum of 2 points (Please select applicable values)

- ☐ Meeting(s) with the general public to discuss Project (1 point)
☒ Conference call(s) with interested parties (1 point)
☒ Meeting(s) with stakeholders (1 point)

Explain each statement that was checked

The project was discussed with stakeholders and received support at the forest's quarterly OHV stakeholder meeting in January 2009. There have been additional phone calls from the public regarding the opening of the trail over the past year. Follow-up phone calls to interested parties were conducted in February 2009.

5. Stakeholder Input - Q 5.

5. If the Project were approved, the planning process would incorporate substantial stakeholder input: 5

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- ☐ No (No points) ☒ Yes (5 points)

If 'Yes', explain, specifically, how it would be 'substantial'. Identify stakeholders

From its inception, stakeholders have been involved in the development of this proposal to analyze the options relative to trail sustainability. If approved, internal scoping would result in identification of additional interested public/stakeholders who would be invited to assist in developing options to include field site visits, and subsequent development of viable options. The project will be posted to the forest website and published in local papers to ensure the opportunity for additional public participation. All public participation will be documented.

6. Utilization of Partnerships - Q 6.

6. The Project will utilize partnerships to successfully accomplish the Project. The number of partner organizations that will participate in the Project are 2

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

- ☐ 4 or more (4 points) ☒ 2 to 3 (2 points)
☐ 1 (1 point) ☐ None (No points)

List partner organization(s)

California Trail Users Coalition

Los Padres National Forest Association

7. Sustain OHV Opportunity - Q 7.

7. The Planning Project sustains OHV Opportunity in the following manner 10

(Check all that apply) (Please select applicable values)

- ☒ Project will develop management plans for existing OHV Opportunity (4 points)
☒ Project will complete environmental review for an OHV Development Project (3 points)
☒ Project supports development of OHV Opportunities adjacent to population centers (3 points)
☐ Project supports development of OHV Opportunities in areas that lack legal OHV Opportunity (2 points)
☐ Project will develop a system of designated OHV routes for an existing OHV Opportunity (2 points)

Explain each statement that was checked

This project will address the closure and subsequent reopening of an OHV route that provides connectivity of the designated route system adjacent to the mountain communities of Lake of the Woods, Frazier Park, and Pinon Pines Estates. This is not a new route so it may not meet the Division's definition of development. The project will result in an environmental review with subsequent documentation (and plan) for managing this existing opportunity that has been closed due to safety concerns since December 2007.

8. Identification of Funding Sources - Q 8.

8. Funds for implementing the completed plan have been identified 5

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

☐ No (No points)

☒ Yes (5 points)

Explain 'Yes' response

Funds would be available through a combination of future appropriated funds, volunteer in kind contribution, and State OHV development and/or ground operations funding. The proposed mix would be at a minimum - 60% USFS/partner and 40% State OHV funds. Agency is prohibited from committing future appropriations on 1) a project that hasn't been analyzed (NEPA), and 2) has an unknown cost.

Reference Document

NA - The project will take from 12-18 months to complete which will be fiscal year 2011. We are unable to obligate future funding through a reference document by policy. However, District and Forest staff as well as partners are committed to partnering with the State OHV Division to provide the connectivity within the designated OHV system resulting from this project. Once the plan is completed, we will find the funding.

9. Offsite Impacts - Q 9.

9. The Planning Project would address offsite impacts relative to the Project Area (e.g., sound, fugitive dust, runoff): 5

(Check the one most appropriate) (Please select one from list)

☐ No (No points)

☒ Yes (5 points)

Explain 'Yes' response

The trail condition survey of 9/3/08 indicates deep rutting and soil movement off the designated route creating 1) a safety hazard for riders, and 2) offsite soil accumulations downgrade from rutting. Intermittently along the trail bed there is an approximate total of 3000 feet of undesired rutting and widening of the trail. While the project will focus primarily on these areas of concern and how offsite soil movement and runoff has increased due to the rutting/widening, the analysis will cover the entire length of the trail to support its overall continued use and identify any or new problems including off route impacts.